

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 129967
ORIGIN ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 /025 R

DRAFTED BY ACDA/PA:JMPOPE:MM
APPROVED BY ACDA/PA:PASANJUAN
-----062135Z 088348 /66

P 062043Z JUN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 129967

USSALTTWO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, SOPN

SUBJECT: JUNE 6 PRESS ROUNDUP

-

1. WASHINGTON POST IN FRONT-PAGE ARTICLE JUNE 6 REPORTED THAT FUNDS TO BUILD "ENHANCED RADIATION" WARHEAD -- FIRST PRACTICAL USE OF SO-CALLED NEUTROL BOMB THEORY -- FOR FIFTY-MILE RANGE LANCE MISSILE "ARE BURIED IN ERDA PORTION OF 10.2 BILLION DOLLAR PUBLIC WORKS APPROPRIATIONS BILL NOW BEFORE CONGRESS. WEAPON IS SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED TO KILL PEOPLE THROUGH RELEASE OF NEUTRONS RATHER THAN TO DESTROY MILITARY INSTALLATIONS THROUGH HEAT AND BLAST. POST SAID LEADING ADVOCATES OF NEW GENERATION OF TACTICAL MINI-NUKES HAVE BEEN AMERICAN GENERALS WHO COMMANDED NATO THEATER. THESE GENERALS HAVE ARGUED THAT 7,000 NUCLEAR WARHEADS NOW IN EUROPE ARE OLD, HAVE TOO LARGE NUCLEAR YIELD AND THUS WOULD NOT BE USED IN WAR. POST POINTED OUT "WITH LOWER YIELDS AND THEREFORE LESS POSSIBLE COLLATERAL DAMAGE TO CIVILIAN POPULATED AREAD, THESE COMMANDERS HAVE

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 129967

ARGUED, NEW MINI-NUKES ARE MORE CREDIBLE AS DETERRENTS BECAUSE THEY JUST MIGHT BE USED ON BATTLEFIELD WITHOUT LEADING TO AUTOMATIC NUCLEAR ESCALATION. POST QUOTED INFORMED SOURCES AS SAYING PRESIDENT FORD SIGNED ORDER FOR ENHANCED RADIATION LANCE WARHEAD, WHICH IS ONE OF HALF DOZEN NUCLEAR DEVICES ON WHICH PRODUCTION IS

SCHEDULED TO START NEXT YEAR.

2. SYNDICATED COLUMNISTS ROWLAND EVANS AND ROBERT NOVAK IN JUNE 6 WASHINGTON POST SAID ,CONCERN ABOUT COMPETENCY OF U.S. NEGOTIATORS IN SALT IS RAISED BY THIS REMARKABLE FACT: NEW U.S. PROPOSAL PUT FORTH IN GENEVA SETS 'CEILING'ON PRODUCTION OF SOVIET BACKFIRE BOMBER AT HIGHER LEVEL THAN RUSSIANS CAN POSSIBLY ACHIEVE.' EVANS AND NOVAK SAID FAILURE BY SECRETARY VANCE "TO REVEAL PROPOSED 'CEILING' TO SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE MAY 26 MIGHT INDICATE SELF-DOUBT BY U.S. POLICYMAKERS ABOUT ITS OWRTH. BUT DEFENSE-ORIENTED MEMBERS OF CONGRESS SUSPECT DUPLICITY LESS THAN INCOMPETENCY....DOUBT HAS GROWN WHETHER U.S. KNOWS WHAT IT IS DOING IN ARMS-CONTROL TALKS." COLUMNISTS EXPLAINED "HEART OF CONCERN IS FACT THAT JUST ONE MONTH AFTER PRESIDENT CARTER'S BOLD, TOUGH BUT STILL REASONABLE SALT PACKAGE WAS TABLED IN MOSCOW, CONCESSIONS WERE OFFERED IN GENEVA. INESCAPABLE CONCLUSION IS THAT, CONTRARY TO CARTER'S REPEATED PUBLIC ASSURANCES THAT HE IS IN NO HURRY, OLD COMPULSIVE U.S. URGE FOR SOME AGREEMENT -- ANY AGREEMENT -- HAS RETURNED. INTRACTABLE SOVIET POSITION AT GENEVA SUGGESTS KREMLIN EXPECTS THAT AMERICAN COMPULSION TO BACK DOWN WILL YIELD STILL MORE AMERICAN CONCESSIONS. THEORY THAT U.S. NEGOTIATORS ARE MORE INTERESTED IN IDEA OF TREATY THAN WHAT IS IN IT IS SUPPORTED BY BARGAINING OVER BACKFIRE BOMBER..U.S. PROPOSAL ACCEPTS SOVIET CLAIM THAT BACKFIRE IS MEDIUM-RANGE AND SHOULD NOT BE COUNTED IN LIMIT ON STRATEGIC WEAPONS, EVEN THOUGH MANY EXPERTS BELIEVE IT CAN REACH NORTH AMERICA WITHOUT UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 129967

REFUELING." EVANS AND NOVAK SAID PRESENT SALT CLIMATE "COULD NOT BE FURTHER REMOVED FROM CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S HARD-NOSED BEGINNING IN MOSCOW. WALKING BACKWARDS, U.S. NEGOTIATORS OFFER SUBSTANTIAL CONCESSIONS ON THEIR OWN ARMS, WHILE ASKING LARGELY MEANINGLESS RESTRICTIONS ON SOVIET ARMS. RUSSIANS, PATIENTLY AWAITING TREATY GRANTING THEM MAXIMUM ADVANTAGE, HAVE NOT YET COMPROMISED INCH. THIS CLIMATE, RATHER THAN SUBSTANCE OF WHAT HAPPENED IN GENEVA, IS SOURCE OF DISQUIET IN SENATE.

3. U.S. AMBASSADOR ANDREW YOUNG, IN TALK WITH PLAYBOY MAGAZINE SENIOR ARTICLES EDITOR PETER ROSS RANGE, SAID "NIXON ADMINISTRATION BENT OVER BACKWARD FOR RUSSIANS AND, IN SENSE, SOLD OUT TO SOVIET UNION" IN 1974 VLADIVOSTOK AGREEMENTS WHICH CREATED NUCLEAR ARMS CEILINGS THAT WERE SO HIGH WE COULDN'T POSSIBLY REACH THEM ANYWAY." WASHINGTON POST OBSERVED THAT VLADIVOSTOK AGREEMENTS "CALLED FOR CEILINGS HIGHER THAN U.S. HAD PROJECTS FOR ITS DEPLOY-

MENT OF STRATEGIC NUCLEAR ARMS, BUT LOWER THAN RUSSIANS' PROJECTED DEPLOYMENT, THUS REQUIRING RUSSIANS TO MAKE SOME CUTBACK."

4. NEW YORK TIMES PUBLISHED REUTERS DISPATCH FROM MOSCOW REPORTING THAT SOVIET UNION CRITICIZED U.S. DECISION TO DEPLOY MARK 12A WARHEAD AND HINTED MOVE COULD HAMPER PROGRESS TOWARD NEW ACCORD ON LIMITATION OF STRATEGIC ARMS. PRAVDA SAID DEPLOYMENT OF 12A MOVED NUCLEAR ARMS RACE TO NEW STAGE.

5. CHARLES W. CORDDRY IN JUNE 4 BALTIMORE SUN SAID THREE ANALYSTS EXPRESSED STRONG DOUBT THAT UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES ANY SALT AGREEMENT COULD BE FRAMED THAT IS BOTH IN U.S. NATIONAL INTEREST AND ACCEPTABLE TO MOSCOW. THEY CONTENDED SOVIET UNION USES ARMS NEGOTIATIONS TO GAIN ONE-SIDED ADVANTAGE IN PURSUIT OF STRATEGIC SUPERIORITY
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 129967

AND TO SLOW DOWN U.S. STRATEGIC PROGRAMS. ANALYSTS WERE WILLIAM R. VAN CLEAVE, INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS PROFESSOR AT UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AND MEMBER OF U.S. DELEGATION THAT NEGOTIATED FIRST STRATEGIC ARMS PACT IN 1972; PATRICK J. PARKER, FORMER DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR INTELLIGENCE, AND AMORETTA M. HOEBER, SYSTEMS ANALYST WHO HAS SERVED WITH RAND CORPORATION AND STANFORD RESEARCH INSTITUTE. WRITING IN AMERICAN SECURITY COUNCIL'S JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, THEY VIEWED CARTER ADMINISTRATION ARMS-CUTTING PROPOSALS AS STEP IN RIGHT DIRECTION BUT "INADEQUATE," CORDDRY NOTED.

6. JAMES RESTON IN JUNE 5 NEW YORK TIMES SAID WESTERN EUROPEAN OFFICIALS PRIVATELY EXPRESS CONCERN "ABOUT MOUNTING CRITICISM BETWEEN NEW ADMINISTRATION IN WASHINGTON AND AGING REGIME IN MOSCOW.; RESTON SAID THERE IS "SOME ANXIETY" IN PARIS THAT BELGRADE CONFERENCE "MAY FORCE CONFRONTATION BETWEEN MOSCOW AND WASHINGTON THAT MAY INTERFERE WITH EFFORTS TO REACH SECOND STRATEGIC ARMS AGREEMENT." HE SAID OFFICIALS IN PARIS AND LONDON FEEL THAT SOVIET UNION "IS ENTERING DELICATE PERIOD OF INTERNAL POLITICAL CHANGE, WHEN EXCESSIVE CONTROVERSY OVER HUMAN RIGHTS AND STRATEGIC ARMS COULD IMPEDE PROGRESS ON BOTH." VANCE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS SUMMARIES, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE129967
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JPMPOPE:MM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770201-0598
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770686/aaaacxpe.tel
Line Count: 162
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: da313984-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN ACDA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2259819
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JUNE 6 PRESS ROUNDUP -
TAGS: PARM, SOPN
To: GENEVA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/da313984-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009